

FCC comment 03-187

I am very glad that the FCC is considering rule changes on the construction and lighting of towers. We need to reduce every threat to birds that we can. A plentiful bird population can easily become a threatened or extinct one (consider the Passenger Pigeon). Many birds that die at towers are from species that are not plentiful and most bird populations are definitely declining.

I enjoy watching birds. I appreciate the work that birds do to eat bugs and seeds. I am appalled at the wasteful loss of life that occurs at towers.

In addition to the bird mortality problem, towers are unsightly on the landscape (tourism), tower lights disrupt views of the night sky, and in the part of the country where I live towers are bad for military pilots.

Towers are essential to modern communications. I'd like to see as many devices as is feasible placed on each tower. Encourage sharing of towers by companies.

Keep tower heights low when feasible. I do not know the science behind this. Low towers will not need lights and will be less of a threat to military flyers. Keeping towers out of plane/helicopter approach corridors is another consideration.

There are currently two studies started in this region on the impact of cell towers and light pollution on military training as part of a new Joint Land Use Study for Fort Bragg. The studies will recommend ways to minimize these impacts. At the national level the FCC can pass rules that will help minimize these impacts.